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COMBINED DISTRICTS

EPPING URBAN DISTRICT

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT

EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Reports of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTORS

For the Year ending 31st December, 1955.

C O M B I N E D D I S T R I C T S

EPPING URBAN DISTRICT
HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT
EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Incorporating the reports of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTORS

For the Year ended 31st December, 1955.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES, 1955.

EPPING URBAN DISTRICT:

Chairman: Councillor F.R.Hutton

Members:

Cllr. G. TEMPLE (ex officio)
" L.R. BARKER
" MRS. W. DEVONALD
Cllr. L.B. FOSKETT
" MRS. F.M. POLLITT

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT (From 1st April, 1955):

Chairman: Councillor F.J. James, J.P.
Vice-Chairman: Councillor R. Guy

Members:

Cllr. A.E. BROWN (ex officio)
" D.L. ANDERSON
" A.E. BOND
" E.W. BUCKLE
Cllr. MRS. E. DRUCE
" MRS. B.D. LOW
" F.H. STAPLETON

EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT (From 1st April, 1955):

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. H.E. Howard
Vice-Chairman: Councillor R. Torrence

Members:

Cllr. L.P. DAVIS (ex officio)
" MRS. C.M. DOYLE
" L.G. EDWARDS
" J.H.E. EVANS
" E.W. MARSH
" LT.COL. K.F. MAY, O.B.E.
" J. OSBORN
" R.J. PADFIELD
Cllr. S.A. PAYNE
" R.F. READER
" L.D.G. RICHINGS
" E.G. ROAST
" J.W. STEVENS
" H.G. WATERMAN
" J.R. WOOLLARD

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J.F. LUCEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Until 20th Feb., 1955)

L.S. FRY, M.D., D.P.H. (Acting - from 21st Feb. to 10th Sept., 1955)

H. FRANKS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Acting - from 10th Sept., 1955)

Office: 209, High Street, Epping, Essex.

Secretary: MRS. I.M. STOCK

SANITARY INSPECTORS

Epping Urban District	Hawthorn Lodge, 91, High Street, Epping.
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector	H.J. MEAD, M.S.I.A., F.I.A.S., M.R.S.I.
Assistant Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector	M. PERRY (From 28th March, 1955)
Clerks	MRS. M. EMERY (Until 14th, May, 1955)
	MRS. M.S. FARNSWORTH (From 18th April, 1955)
Harlow Urban District (From 1st April, 1955)	Netteswell Hall, Harlow, Essex.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	H.J. HEELEY, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I. M.R.I.P.H.H. Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate. Diploma in Practical Sanitary Science, London.

Additional Sanitary Inspector	S.A. EADE, M.S.I.A. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate. Certificate in Sanitary Science, Royal Sanitary Institute. Diploma in Hygiene, Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.
Chief Clerk	MISS A.E.A. ROTHWELL
Clerk	MISS R.L. BOSANQUET (From 4th July, 1955)
<u>Epping and Ongar Rural District</u> (From 1st April, 1955)	209, High Street, Epping.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	R.S. SHEARS, M.S.I.A. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	R.A.T. KEMP, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Other Foods) Certificate. Certificate in Sanitary Science, Royal Sanitary Institute.
	R.F.S. MUSGRAVE, M.S.I.A.
Chief Clerk	T.D. BLYTH (From 2nd August, 1955)
Clerk	MISS G.B. GUEST

To the Chairmen and Members of the
Councils of the Epping Urban District,
the Harlow Urban District, and the
Epping and Ongar Rural District.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my first Annual Report. The part played by me in its presentation is only a minor one because, as it covers a period prior to my appointment as Medical Officer of Health of the Combined Districts, it does not reflect my own work but is simply a collection of information and data which were available to me. For this reason I have not greatly changed the form of the report which remains substantially the same as that of the preceding years, nor have I attempted to draw any conclusions from the statistics, though, naturally, I have commented on some of them.

1955 was a particularly difficult year which saw considerable administrative dislocation at all levels. When Dr. J.F. Lucey resigned his appointment in February there was no permanent Medical Officer of Health for a whole year. Dr. L.S. Fry, a former Public Health Officer and retired Chest Physician, acted as part-time Medical Officer of Health from Dr. Lucey's departure until September, and was succeeded by Dr. H. Franks who watched over community health in the Combined Districts in addition to performing the duties connected with his full-time appointment of Assistant County Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health of the Chigwell and the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Councils. I respectfully suggest that great credit is due to these two officers who, despite many difficulties arising mainly from the temporary and part-time nature of their appointments, dealt effectively with all the public health problems which presented themselves during their tenure of office.

On 1st April, 1955, Harlow, which before that was part of the Epping Rural District, became an Urban District with its own Council responsible for local administration. At the same time, what remained of the Epping Rural District was amalgamated with the Ongar Rural District to form the Epping and Ongar Rural District.

With the creation of these new authorities the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the former Epping Rural District was appointed to the equivalent post with the Harlow Urban District Council, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the former Ongar Rural District Council assumed the responsibility for the Epping and Ongar Rural District. To them as well as to the Sanitary Inspector of the Epping Urban District Council, whose position remained unchanged, I am indebted not only for their part of the report which deals with the sanitary circumstances of the three districts, but for much valuable general information about the districts and the public health problems peculiar to them.

Vital Statistics.

Table II shows data relative to the Combined Districts. Their interpretation is somewhat involved because of the boundary changes which took place on 1st April, 1955.

Of the three districts covered by this report, only the Epping Urban District was not affected by these changes. Its population, compared with the previous year, increased by 240. This was accounted for by a natural increase of 51 and by migration of 189 persons. The standardized birth rate was 17.0 per 1,000 population as compared with 14.2 per 1,000 population in 1954. There was little change in the death rate which remained low.

The vital statistics relating to each of the new districts cannot be compared with any of the previous years because they apply to quite different areas and populations. However, by disregarding the changes of boundaries and administration and by treating the Harlow Urban District and the Epping and Ongar Rural District as one area equivalent to that of the former Rural Districts of Epping and Ongar, it is possible to achieve some measure of statistical comparability.

The population of this area, as estimated by the Registrar General, rose from 48,390 in mid-1954 to 56,300 in mid-1955. This increase of 7,910 was due to an excess of 931 births over the number of deaths and to 6,979 migrants. The total number of births was 1,354, of which 655 were registered in the Harlow Urban District during the nine months of its existence as a County District.

In calculating the birth and death rates for the Harlow Urban District and the Epping and Ongar Rural District it was necessary to estimate the total number of births and deaths during the twelve months under review on the basis of the official figures supplied by the Registrar General which cover only the three quarters of the year from 1st April to 31st December, 1955.

The crude birth rate for Harlow thus derived was, at 35.2 per 1,000 population, not only over twice as high as the rate for England and Wales but also higher than the highest birth-rate recorded in 1954 for any area of England and Wales.

Harlow's death rate has a similar distinction of being only one third of the national one.

As for the causes of death in the Combined Districts, it is gratifying to be able to report that deaths from malignant tumours continued to decline from 98 in 1953 and 93 in 1954 to 89 in 1955. Even mortality from cancer of the lung and bronchus, which rose so dramatically in the country as a whole, showed a slight decrease.

Notifiable Diseases.

The Combined Districts suffered no large outbreaks of infectious diseases.

Cases of poliomyelitis numbered 35 (18 paralytic and 17 non-paralytic) of which 21 (11 paralytic and 10 non-paralytic) occurred in Harlow.

Notifications of food poisoning rose from 4 in 1954 to 46 in 1955 and there were 5 cases of paratyphoid B fever.

A small outbreak of diphtheria totalling 11 cases occurred in November in the Great Stony School in Chipping Ongar, a residential school for educationally sub-normal boys. Dr. Franks who dealt with the outbreak made at the time the following observations: "There were nine cases with sore throats and two symptomless carriers. Only three boys had generalised illness which, with the exception of one who later developed paralysis of the soft palate, was very mild.

The immunisation state of the school was on the whole satisfactory and even the most severe case is known to have been Schick negative as recently as July 1955. Only three boys produced no satisfactory evidence of previous immunisation".

The causative organism of the outbreak was identified as the "mitis" strain of corynebacterium diphtheriae.

There was a sharp rise in the number of cases of measles. Such increase is normal after a year of low incidence and follows the usual pattern of biennial peak periods.

Newly notified cases of tuberculosis increased from 23 in 1954 to 29 in 1955 though the number of deaths from this disease remained low. Almost half (13) of the new cases were registered in Harlow in the nine months from 1st April to 31st December, 1955.

Twenty-two persons previously known to be suffering from tuberculosis came into the Combined Districts (13 to Harlow) and one left the area.

The North East Metropolitan Hospital Board's Mass Radiography Unit 6a visited Harlow in the summer. Full details of the work carried out by the Unit to whose Medical Director, Dr. H. Ramsay, I am indebted for the information, are given on pages 26 and 27. Three new active cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered as a result of the survey.

During the year the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food declared the three districts a specified area under the Food and Drugs (Milk Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950. No milk other than pasteurized, sterilized or tuberculin tested is allowed

to be sold to the public, and a possible vehicle for the spread of infections has thus been made safe.

In conclusion, I should like to express my grateful thanks to the members of the three Councils who gave me a kind welcome when I took up my appointment. I look forward to their continued support and encouragement.

I must also acknowledge my indebtedness to Dr. F.G. Brown, Area Medical Officer, Forest Division, and Dr. J.L. Miller-Wood, Area Medical Officer, Mid-Essex Division, for the data relating to the County Council's health functions in the Combined Districts.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I. ASH, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

I. GENERAL STATISTICS, 1955.

	Epping Urban District	Harlow Urban District	Epping & Ongar Rural District
Area (in acres).....	1,488	6,313	75,500
Resident population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate)	7,380	24,660	31,640
Number of inhabited houses (at 1st April, 1955).....	2,192	7,512	9,702
Number of houses per acre (average).....	1.5	1.2	0.1
Number of persons per acre (average).....	4.9	3.9	0.4
Number of persons per house.....	3.4	3.3	3.3
Rateable value (at 1st April, 1955).....	£49,598	£168,086	£177,087
Sum represented by a penny rate (for financial year 1955-56).....	£197	£700	£720
The rate in the pound of the General Rate (financial year 1955-56).....	25s.2d.	25s.0d.	23s.10d.

II VITAL

		Epping Urban District	Epping Rural District (from 1.1.55 to 31.3.55)
Estimated (mid-year) resident population:		7,380	-
Live Births			
Legitimate	M	81	137
	F	50	123
Illegitimate	M	-	3
	F	-	3
Total	M	81	140
	F	50	126
Crude rate per 1,000 population:		17.7	-
Standardised rate per 1,000 population:		17.0	-
Stillbirths			
Legitimate	M	2	1
	F	1	1
Illegitimate	M	-	-
	F	-	-
Total	M	2	1
	F	1	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:		22.4	7.5

S T A T I S T I C S

Ongar Rural District (from 1.1.55 to 31.3.55)	Harlow Urban District (from 1.4.55 to 31.12.55)	Epping and Ongar Rural District (from 1.4.55 to 31.12.55)	England and Wales
-	24,600	31,640	44,441,000
43	334	176	
28	310	172	
1	5	7	
1	6	5	
44	339	183	
29	316	177	
-	35.2	15.1	
-	33.8	15.8	15.0
1	7	3	
-	3	4	
-	-	-	
-	-	-	
1	7	3	
-	3	4	
13.5	15.0	19.1	23.2

		Epping Urban District	Epping Rural District (from 1.1.55 to 31.3.55)
Deaths at all ages	M	34	46
	F	46	36
Crude death rate per 1,000 population:		10.8	-
Standardised death rate per 1,000 population:		7.9	-
Death of infants under 1 year of age			
Legitimate	M	2	3
	F	-	4
Illegitimate	M	-	-
	F	-	-
Total	M	2	3
	F	-	4
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births:		15.3	26.3
Death of infants under 4 weeks of age			
Legitimate	M	2	-
	F	-	2
Illegitimate	M	-	-
	F	-	-
Total	M	2	-
	F	-	2
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births:		15.3	7.5

Ongar Rural District (from 1.1.55 to 31.3.55)	Harlow Urban District (from 1.4.55 to 31.12.55)	Epping and Ongar Rural District (from 1.4.55 to 31.12.55)	England and Wales
29	45	99	
31	29	108	
-	4.0	8.7	
-	3.9	8.6	11.7
1	8	4	
-	1	2	
-	-	-	
-	1	-	
1	8	4	
-	2	2	
13.7	15.3	13.9	24.9
1	6	3	
-	-	2	
-	-	-	
-	1	-	
1	6	3	
-	1	2	
13.7	10.7	13.9	17.3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES - INCIDENCE

	Epping Urban District				
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Scarlet fever	6	36	5	9	5
Typhoid & paratyphoid	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	2	0	2	2
Puerperal pyrexia	20	17	2	3	0
Measles	173	15	216	76	147
Whooping cough	26	95	27	15	2
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	15	1	2	6	1
Infective hepatitis	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia (Primary or influenzal)	4	3	7	2	0
Food poisoning	17	1	1	1	15
Gastro-enteritis	0	3	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	0	1	0	0	0
Non-paralytic	0	0	0	0	0

	Epping Rural District (1.1.55 to 31.3.55)	Ongar Rural District (1.1.55 to 31.3.55)	Harlow Urban District (1.4.55 to 31.12.55)	Epping & Ongar Rural District (1.4.55 to 31.13.55)
Scarlet fever	20	1	7	12
Diphtheria	0	1	0	11
Typhoid & paratyphoid	0	0	0	5
Erysipelas	2	0	0	1
Puerperal pyrexia	0	0	2	0
Measles	568	5	313	357
Whooping cough	24	7	6	14
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	0	0	6	6
Infective hepatitis	2	0	2	1
Pneumonia (Primary or influenzal)	4	2	3	2
Food poisoning	0	0	20	11
Gastro-enteritis	4	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	1	0	11	6
Non-paralytic	0	0	10	7

INCIDENCE RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION OF

CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE COMBINED

DISTRICTS AND IN ENGLAND AND WALES

- 1955 -

Disease	Combined Districts	England & Wales
Scarlet Fever	70.7	75.8
Diphtheria	18.8	0.4
Enteric (typhoid and paratyphoid fever)	7.8	2.4
Pneumonia (primary or influenzal)	17.3	6.3
Dysentery	20.4	82.6
Poliomyelitis - paralytic	28.3	8.3
non-paralytic	26.7	5.9
Food poisoning	72.2	28.6
Tuberculosis - respiratory	45.5	79.4
meninges & C.S.N.	0.0	1.2
other	3.1	9.4

TUBERCULOSIS

Early in the year the tuberculosis register was completely revised and a few cases previously overlooked were removed from it. There is therefore a discrepancy between the number of cases as at 31st December, 1954, shown in last year's report and that at 1st January, 1955.

Epping Urban District
(Period 1.1.55 to 31.12.55)

	Pulm.		Non-Pulm.		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Number of cases on the register at 1st January, 1955.	17	16	3	1	37
Number of cases added to the register during 1955.					
New cases.....	2	3	-	-	5
Inward transfers.....	2	1	-	-	3
Number of cases removed from the register during 1955.					
Deaths.....	-	-	-	-	-
Outward transfers.....	-	-	-	-	-
Patients cured.....	-	-	-	-	-
Number of patients remaining on the register at 31.12.55....	21	20	3	1	45

T U B E R C U L O S I S (Cont'd.)

Epping Rural District
(Period 1.1.55 to 31.3.55)

	Pulm. M	Pulm. F	Non-Pulm. M	Non-Pulm. F	Total
Number of cases on the register at 1st January, 1955.....	51	50	12	19	122
Number of cases added to the register during above period:					
New cases.....	4	-	-	-	4
Inward transfers.....	-	4	-	-	4
Number of cases removed from the register during above period:					
Deaths.....	-	-	-	-	-
Outward transfers.....	-	1	-	-	1
Patients cured.....	-	1	-	-	1
Number of cases remaining on the register at 31.3.55.....	55	52	12	9	128

T U B E R C U L O S I S (Cont'd.)

Ongar Rural District
(Period 1.1.55 to 31.3.55)

	Pulm. M	Pulm. F	Non-Pulm. M	Non-Pulm. F	Total
Number of cases on the register at 1st January, 1955.....	21	15	5	10	51
Number of cases added to the register during above period:					
New cases.....	1	-	-	-	1
Inward transfers.....	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases removed from the register during above period:					
Deaths.....	-	-	-	-	-
Outward transfers.....	-	-	-	-	-
Patients cured.....	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases remaining on the register at 31.3.55.....	22	15	5	10	52

T U B E R C U L O S I S (Cont'd.)

Harlow Urban District
(Period 1.4.55 to 31.12.55)

	Pulm. M	Pulm. F	Non-Pulm. M	Non-Pulm. F	Total
Number of cases on the register at 1st April, 1955.....	31	39	4	4	78
Number of cases added to the register during above period:					
New cases.....	6	6	-	1	13
Inward transfers.....	4	8	-	1	13
Number of cases removed from the register during above period:					
Deaths.....	-	1	1	-	2
Outward transfers.....	-	-	-	-	-
Patients cured.....	-	1	-	-	1
Number of cases remaining on the register at 31.12.55.....	41	51	3	6	101

T U B E R C U L O S I S (Cont'd.)

Epping and Ongar Rural District
(Period 1.4.55 to 31.12.55)

	Pulm. M	Pulm. F	Non-Pulm. M	Non-Pulm. F	Total
Number of cases on the register at 1st April, 1955.....	46	28	13	15	102
Number of cases added to the register during above period:					
New cases.....	4	1	-	1	6
Inward transfers.....	1	1	-	-	2
Number of cases removed from the register during above period:					
Deaths.....	1	-	-	-	1
Outward transfers.....	-	-	-	-	-
Patients cured.....	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases remaining on the register at 31.12.55.....	50	30	13	16	109

CAUSES OF DEATH

Epping Urban District:	Male	Female	Total
All Causes:	34	46	80
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	2	1	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	1	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	3	4	7
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	1	1
16. Diabetes.....	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	7	8	15
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	8	4	12
19. Hypertension with heart disease....	-	-	-
20. Other heart disease.....	1	10	11
21. Other circulatory disease.....	1	3	4
22. Influenza.....	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	4	4	8
24. Bronchitis.....	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion....	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	3	6
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	1	2
34. All other accidents.....	1	-	1
35. Suicides.....	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH (Cont'd)

Epping Rural District (1.1.55 to 31.3.55):

	Male	Female	Total
All Causes:	46	36	82
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	2	-	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1	1	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	-	-
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	5	4	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
16. Diabetes.....	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	5	10
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	7	1	8
19. Hypertension with heart disease....	1	-	1
20. Other heart disease.....	6	9	15
21. Other circulatory disease.....	-	2	2
22. Influenza.....	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	5	5	10
24. Bronchitis.....	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion....	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	5	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	-	1
34. All other accidents.....	2	-	2
35. Suicides.....	-	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH (Cont'd)

Ongar Rural District (1.1.55 to 31.3.55):

	Male	Female	Total
All Causes:	29	31	60
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	-	-
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	4	2	6
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
16. Diabetes.....	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	12	15
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	1	4	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease...	-	1	1
20. Other heart disease.....	7	5	12
21. Other circulatory disease.....	2	-	2
22. Influenza.....	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	-	4	4
24. Bronchitis.....	1	1	2
25. Other diseases of respitatory system	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion...	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	-	-	-
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	5	-	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	-	-	-
34. All other accidents.....	-	-	-
35. Suicides.....	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war....	1	-	1

C A U S E S O F D E A T H (Cont'd)

Harlow Urban District (1.4.55 to 31.12.55):

	Male	Female	Total
All Causes:	45	29	74
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	1	1
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	1	-	1
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	2	1	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	1	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	7	1	8
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
16. Diabetes.....	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	2	3
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	7	6	13
19. Hypertension with heart disease..	1	-	1
20. Other heart disease.....	1	2	3
21. Other circulatory disease.....	3	1	4
22. Influenza.....	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	3	3	6
24. Bronchitis.....	1	-	1
25. Other disease of respitatory system	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum....	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion..	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	2	-	2
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	11	3	14
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	-	1
34. All other accidents.....	-	3	3
35. Suicides.....	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war...	-	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH (Cont'd)

Epping and Ongar Rural District (1.4.55 to 31.12.55):

	Male	Female	Total
All Causes:	99	108	207
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	1	-	1
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	2	1	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	-	6
12. Melignant neoplasm, breast.....	1	6	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	1	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	9	10	19
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	3	3
16. Diabetes.....	1	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	17	33
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	22	15	37
19. Hypertension with heart disease...	-	4	4
20. Other heart disease.....	14	25	39
21. Other circulatory disease.....	2	5	7
22. Influenza.....	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	3	3	6
24. Bronchitis.....	4	1	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	2	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion...	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	11	19
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	2	-	2
34. All other accidents.....	3	1	4
35. Suicides.....	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war....	-	-	-

RESULT OF MASS RADIOGRAPHY INVESTIGATION IN HARLOW

a) Industrial Survey

	Male	Female	Total
Miniature films taken:			
Standard Telephone Co....	240	216	456
Harlow Metal Co.....	132	45	177
Revertex.....	912	406	1,318
Total:	1,284	667	1,951
Recalled for large film....	45	13	58
Did not attend for large film	2	-	2
Cases of tuberculosis discovered:			
Cases notified as a result of this examination.....	-	1	1
Inactive cases discovered	19	3	22
Case previously notified before attendance at Unit	1	-	1
Other abnormalities discovered:			
Acquired heart abnormality (Mitral stenosis).....	-	1	1
Pneumoconiosis.....	1	-	1

RESULT OF MASS RADIOGRAPHY INVESTIGATION IN HARLOW (Cont'd)

b) General Survey (Moot House)

	Male	Female	Total
Miniature films taken:			
Public session.....	399	772	1,171
Doctors' referrals.....	4	4	8
Organised groups.....	25	20	45
Schoolchildren.....	100	170	270
Total:	528	966	1,494
Recalled for large film.....	24	33	57
Did not attend for large film	-	1	1
Cases of tuberculosis discovered:			
Notified as a result of the examination.....	2	-	2
Inactive cases discovered	8	12	20
Cases previously notified before attendance at Unit	4	-	4
Other abnormalities discovered:			
Acquired cardiac abnormality	1	2	3
Pneumoconiosis.....	1	-	1
Bronchial carcinoma.....	1	-	1

c) Summary of Industrial and General Surveys

Miniature films taken.....	1,812	1,633	3,445
Large film recalls.....	69	46	115
Pulmonary Tuberculosis:			
New cases discovered and notified.....	2	1	3
Inactive cases discovered	27	15	42
Previously notified cases attending.....	5	-	5

TABLE SHOWING THE INCIDENCE OF NEW CLAIMS FOR SICKNESS BENEFIT IN THE HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT

Month	Claims
January	385
February	302
March	383
April	214
May	240
June	186
July	184
August	224
September	249
October	298
November	394
December	250

N.B.- Separate figures for the other districts are not available.

TABLE GIVING DETAILS OF ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS FOR EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR

Month	Mean Temperature °F	Sunshine reg. in hours	Rainfall in inches
January	37.7	30.0	1.92
February	35.5	54.6	0.62
March	38.7	135.6	1.70
April	48.2	207.6	0.31
May	50.7	194.6	3.73
June	58.1	175.2	1.97
July	84.5	253.0	0.59
August	65.8	191.2	0.71
September	59.6	151.4	1.76
October	51.2	138.7	2.35
November	46.9	45.7	0.91
December	44.1	48.3	1.76

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE COMBINED DISTRICTS

1. Laboratory Facilities

As in previous years, use was made of the Ministry's of Health Laboratory at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping, and of the Counties Public Health Laboratory, 66, Victoria Street, London. Results of the examinations carried out at these laboratories are given in the appropriate sections of the report.

2. Hospital Facilities

The North-East Metropolitan Hospital Board, through the Epping Group Hospital Management Committee, continued to provide hospital and consultant services in the Combined Districts.

3. Tuberculosis - Treatment and After-care

The Chest Clinic at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping, operated on Tuesday mornings, on alternate Wednesday mornings and on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Artificial pneumothorax refills were carried out on Monday mornings and afternoons and contact cases were seen on Tuesday afternoons. Patients with appointment letters from their family doctors were examined on Friday mornings.

The Forest Area Tuberculosis Care Association gave valuable assistance, not normally provided under the National Health Service, to both patients and their families.

4. General Practitioners' Medical Services

The three districts continued to be adequately served by general practitioners.

5. Maternity and Child Welfare

The Essex County Council is responsible for this service which is administered partly through the Mid-Essex Area Health Sub-Committee (in the area of the former Ongar Rural District) and partly through the Forest Area Health Sub-Committee (in the remainder of the Combined Districts).

During the year three new health centres were opened in Harlow, one of them replacing the temporary Heygarth House Centre.

Ante-natal, child welfare and other clinics were held at the times and places shown below:-

EPPING URBAN DISTRICT:

The Combined Treatment Centre, 15, Regent Road, Epping.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Thursday afternoons from 2.30 to 4.0 p.m.
b) Immunisations: After the Child Welfare Clinic.

c) Women's Welfare Clinic: every second Friday at 2.0 p.m.

d) Relaxation Classes: Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT:

Sydenham House, Netteswell, Harlow.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

b) Ante-Natal Clinic: Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 2 to 4.0 p.m.

c) Relaxation Classes: Wednesday mornings by appointment.

Osler House, Potter Street, Harlow.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Mondays from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

b) Ante-Natal Clinic: Thursdays from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

c) Relaxation Classes: Thursday mornings by appointment.

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT (cont'd):

Nuffield House, The Stow, Harlow.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

b) Weighing Sessions: Thursday mornings.

c) Ante-Natal Clinic: Monday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

d) Relaxation Classes: Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 to 12 noon.

Women's Institute Club.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: First Wednesday in the month at 2.0 p.m.

Moot House, Harlow.

Physiotherapy: Wednesday mornings.

Parish Hall, Great Parndon.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Fourth Tuesday in each month from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

Parndon Hall Gardens, Hare Street, Harlow.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Second and fourth Mondays from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

b) Ante-Natal Clinic: Alternate Mondays.

EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT:

The Queen's Room, North Weald.

Child Welfare Clinic: Second and fourth Wednesdays - afternoon.

Women's Institute Hall, Matching.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Third Friday in each month at 2.0 p.m.

Cadet Hut, St. Leonard's Road, Nazeing.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: First and third Tuesdays in each month at 2.0 p.m.

b) Immunisations: At each Child Welfare Clinic.

Community Centre, Roydon.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Second Thursday in each month.

Sheering Village Hall.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: First Friday in each month at 2.0 p.m.

New Village Hall, Theydon Bois.

a) Child Welfare Clinic and Immunisations: Second and fourth Monday in each month from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

The Congregational Church, Ongar.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Second and fourth Thursday in each month at 2.0 p.m.

b) Ante-Natal Clinic: Second Monday in each month at 2.0 p.m.

EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT: (cont'd)

The Gymnasium, Abridge.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Second and fourth Wednesday in each month at 2.0 p.m.

The Baptist Chapel, Blackmore.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: First Wednesday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

The Village Hall, Willingale.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Third Thursday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

The Village Hall, Moreton.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: The second Wednesday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

The Village Hall, High Ongar.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: First Monday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

The Village Hall, Doddinghurst.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Third Thursday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

The Village Hall, Kelvedon Common.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: First Thursday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

The Village Hall, Navestock.

a) Child Welfare Clinic: Third Wednesday in each month at 2.15 p.m.

6. Vaccinations, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations

Immunisations against these diseases were carried out at the County Council's clinics and by the general practitioners.

7. Domiciliary Midwifery, Home Nursing, Domestic Help and Health Visiting

All these services were provided by the County Council through the Forest Area Health Sub-Committee and the Mid-Essex Area Health Sub-Committee.

DETAILS OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S HEALTH SERVICES

	Epping Urban District	Harlow Urban District	Epping & Ongar Rural District	Total
Ante-Natal Clinics				
a) Ante-natal attendances	-	3,802	1,471	5,389
b) Post-natal attendances	-	84	32	
Child Welfare Clinics				
Attendances of children under 1 year.....	1,237	7,206	8,580	25,099
1 - 5 years.....	599	2,870	4,607	
Women's Welfare Clinics				
Attendances.....	71	-	19	90
Midwifery & Home Nursing				
No. of cases attended by midwives:				
a) as midwives.....	41	257	148	581
b) as maternity nurses...	-	57	78	
No. of visits paid by home nurses.....	3,380	6,118	14,034	23,502
Health Visiting				
No. of visits made.....	1,608	6,079	11,184	18,871
Immunisations				
Vaccinations against smallpox	47	482	166	695
Revaccinations.....	44	40	34	118
Diphtheria.....	7	89	41	137
Booster doses ..	18	91	100	209
Whooping cough.....	54	239	216	509

8. School Health Service

The Essex County Council is the Local Education Authority. Routine medical inspections of children are carried out at least three times during a child's compulsory school attendance age and each school is usually visited by a School Medical Officer once a year. School nurses regularly supervise the cleanliness of the children.

During 1955, children with particular needs attended the following special clinics:-

EPPING URBAN DISTRIC:

Combined Treatment Centre, 15, Regent Road, Epping.

a) Minor Ailment Clinic: Thursdays from 1.30 to 2.30 p.m.

b) Ophthalmic Clinic: Second and fourth Monday in each month in the afternoon.

c) Orthoptic Clinic: Every Wednesday.

d) Physiotherapy: Every Friday afternoon.

e) Dental Clinic: Tuesdays and Wednesdays all day.

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT:

Sydenham House, Netteswell, Harlow.

a) Speech Therapy: Wednesdays all day and Friday afternoons.

Nuffield House, The Stow, Harlow.

a) Minor Ailment Clinic: Alternate Fridays (by appointment) from 10 to 12 noon.

b) Orthopaedic Ascertainment Clinic: One Saturday every six weeks - mornings.

HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT: (Cont'd)

Moot House, The Stow, Harlow.

a) Physiotherapy Clinic: Wednesday mornings.

b) Ophthalmic Clinic: Second Thursday in the month - mornings.

EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT:

Congregational Hall, Ongar.

a) Minor Ailment Clinic (in conjunction with Child Welfare Clinic): Second and fourth Thursday afternoon in each month.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICTS
(Reports of the Chief Sanitary Inspectors)

A) EPPING URBAN DISTRICT

1. WATER

The general supply position remained satisfactory and was in fact improved by the bringing into operation of the new wells required in connection with Harlow New Town. Despite an unusually dry summer there were no complaints of shortage nor were there any restrictions imposed by the Herts and Essex Water Company. The analyst's reports showed that the water continued to be wholesome and satisfactory for domestic purposes. Still further consideration was given to the question of softening the water but there seems little likelihood of any real progress being made.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

a) Northern Outfall. The flow to these works has been considerably increased both by private development and by the further growth of the Epping Urban Council's and Chingford Urban Council's housing estates.

On one occasion considerable difficulty was experienced in clearing the choked outlet from one of the two sedimentation tanks.

Despite the difficulty of obtaining labour the general position remained satisfactory.

b) Southern Outfall. These works continued to function well and there were no complaints from the Essex River Board who regularly sample the effluent.

3. HOUSING

a) Epping Urban Council Housing

There was a slight reduction in the number of houses and flats completed by the Council during the year under review.

A number of these were let to persons from

clearance areas whilst the remainder were allocated in accordance with the Council's points scheme. This was revised during the year to give greater priority to those who had been on the waiting list for some considerable length of time.

b) Chingford Development

Steady progress was made by the Chingford Council with the erection of houses on their Tower Estate. Building operations on this estate were completed early in 1956.

Progress was also made on the Chingford Beaconfield Estate where the work of laying roads and sewers was well in hand at the end of 1955.

c) New houses erected during the year

i) By the Epping Urban District Council.....	41	houses
ii) By other Local Authorities.....	68	"
iii) By other bodies or persons.....	75	"

d) Housing Repairs
(Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)

The provisions of the Housing Reparis and Rents Act, 1954, which allow only a limited increase of rent subject to satisfactory repairs being carried out to a dwelling, have not been widely used in Epping because of the increasing cost of repairs.

e) Improvement Grants
(Housing Act, 1949.)

Ten applications for improvement grants were approved by the Council.

f) Clearance Area Programme

Some progress was made with the first stage of the five year programme already submitted to the Minister. Eight tenants from the High Street area were transferred to Council accommodation, whilst two others made their own arrangements. No formal action was necessary, the owners of the properties having agreed not to allow the re-occupation of the "cleared" accommodation. In this area there are still five families to be re-housed so that no actual demolition has yet taken place. The anticipated difficulty that tenants from this area would be unable or unwilling to meet the higher rents of Council accommodation, did not in fact arise.

4. INSPECTION OF FOOD

a) General

Regular inspections were carried out and many improvements effected. No formal action was necessary nor indeed practicable until the coming into operation of the new Food Hygiene Regulations. A considerable amount of literature dealing with the clean handling of food was distributed. The quantity of food condemned continued to decline.

b) Milk

No change.

c) Ice-cream

Three samples were taken during the year and on laboratory examination all proved to be of Grade I. The production of ice-cream is now for the most part in the hands of a few large manufacturers whose methods are generally very satisfactory.

d) Bakehouses

No change.

e) Meat and other foods

i) Slaughtering and meat inspection:

Following the de-rationing of meat in 1954, butchers have been able to make their own arrangements for slaughtering and obtaining their supplies. Fears that the supply would be difficult have proved groundless. There have been no proposals to re-open any of the old slaughterhouses which formerly operated in this district.

ii) Surrender of unsound food:

Canned food - Meat
5 6lb tins corned beef
4 5lb tins port luncheon meat
1 tin whole Dutch chicken.

Fish - ½ stone - wings skate
5½ stone - Norwegian dog fish
3 stone - coley

Fats - 24 lbs dripping

Confectionery - 56 lbs boiled sweets (sugar fruits.)

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING

Both refuse lorries are now over five years old and because of frequent mechanical breakdowns, some difficulty was experienced in maintaining a regular weekly collection. Arrangements were made for one of the machines to be completely overhauled, and for a new vehicle to be purchased. One of the older machines will be kept for use in emergencies. In this way it is hoped that, with two lorries always available, there will be no interruption of the regular weekly service. The new vehicle is of somewhat larger capacity and will help to deal with the steady growth of the district.

Refuse tipping was continued at the Sawbridgeworth tip now operated by the new Harlow Urban District Council.

6. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

No change.

7. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There were occasional outbreaks of wilful damage to these buildings which are now extensively used by coach passengers passing through the town.

8. RODENT CONTROL

(Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.)

The part-time Rodent Operator continued his work and was for the most part engaged in dealing with private premises.

9. FACTORIES

(Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948)

a) Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities:	5	4	-	-
ii) Factories not included in i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority:	35	20	-	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority:	-	-	-	-
Total:	40	24	-	-

b) Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	No. of prosecutions
Unreasonable temperature:	2	2	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:- Unsuitable or defective:	2	2	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act:	4	4	-	-	-
Total:	8	8	-	-	-

c) Outwork

Nil.

B) HARLOW URBAN DISTRICT

1. WATER

During the period under review, forty samples of water were taken and submitted for examination. The details are as follows:

	MAIN SUPPLY		WATERCRESS BEDS
	Raw water	Treated water	Spring
Herts. & Essex Water Co.- samples	21	12	-
Harlow Development Corporation.- samples	2	-	-
Harlow Urban District Council.- samples	-	3	2
	23	15	2

The results of chemical and bacteriological examinations of these samples indicated that the water was pure and wholesome in character.

2. HOUSING

a) General

Number of occupied houses (at 31.12.55)	8,444
Houses erected by the Council in 1955	117
Houses erected by private enterprise in 1955	5 (x)
Total number of Council houses at 31.12.55. (pre-war: 309) (post-war: 673)	982
Number of applicants for Council accommodation at 31.12.55.	150

(x) Houses built by the Harlow Development Corporation are not included.

b) Inspections

Number of houses inspected	390
" " intimation notices served	29
" " statutory notices served	nil
" " defects remedied	90
" " legal proceedings	1

c) Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1936.

Houses demolished	19
Undertakings not to let	nil
Closing orders	nil
Houses in confirmed clearance areas awaiting demolition	33
Houses in clearance areas not yet confirmed	6
Demolition orders made	1

d) Sub-standard Houses

At the request of the Council a survey of sub-standard properties was carried out. There are 488 such houses in the district each having a gross rateable value of £22 10s. 0d. or less. In some cases the only deficiency was the lack of an internal water closet. Details of the defects are as follows:

No bath	404
Pail closets	129
Outside water closets (some a considerable distance from the house)	303
No drainage	55
Unsatisfactory drainage	77

e) Improvement Grants - Housing Act, 1949.

Number of enquiries	3
Number of applications considered by the Council	2
Number of applications approved	2

House owners have on the whole not availed themselves of the provisions of the 1949 Housing Act because either they lacked capital for repair and improvement work or, where the houses are let on an ordinary weekly tenancy, they found that it was uneconomical for them to do so.

3. INSPECTION OF FOOD

a) General

There are 200 food establishments in the district. During the period under review 917 visits were paid to them.

Shops.....	714	visits
Restaurants and cafés.....	25	"
Public Houses.....	21	"
Fish fryer premises.....	29	"
Canteens - building sites....	27	"
- schools.....	19	"
Mobile food vans.....	8	"
Warehouses and depots.....	12	"
Dairies.....	24	"
Bakeries.....	38	"

Forty-four premises for the manufacture, storage and sale of food were on the register under the provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Ice-cream.....	32	premises
Manufacture of sausages, etc.	12	"

In the course of inspections advice was given on the hygiene of storage and distribution

of food. Formal or informal action was taken in the following cases:-

Samples submitted to analyst (suspected unsound food)	2
Number of intimation notices served	18
Legal proceedings	2

Twelve complaints relating to the condition of food and twenty-two cases of food poisoning were investigated.

b) Milk

Twenty-nine licences were issued under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations. The details are as follows:-

	Supplementary	Dealer	Total
Pasteurized	2	10	12
Sterilized	2	10	12
Tuberculin tested	1	4	5
	5	24	29

Number of dairies on register	4
Number of samples of milk taken (pasteurized 11, sterilized 3, tuberculin tested-pasteurized 2)	16

All the milk samples were reported to be satisfactory.

c) Ice-cream

Thirty-two premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. During the period under review 14 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted to examination with the following results:

Grade I	9
Grade II	1
Grade III	2
Grade IV	2

Three samples of ice lolly were also examined and of these, two were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

In the cases where ice-cream was graded III or IV and in the case of the unsatisfactory ice lolly, action was taken together with the Local Authorities in whose areas these products were manufactured, and in consequence improvement was brought about.

d) Meat and Other Foods

i) Slaughtering and meat inspection:

One slaughterhouse is licensed in the district. The following tables show the number and type of animals inspected and the reasons for condemning carcases or parts of them:

Number of animals inspected

Beasts	23
Calves	10
Sheep	61
Pigs	181
	275

Condemnations

Disease	Part	Weight
Swine fever	13 carcases	994 lbs.
Distomatosis	1 sheep liver	2 "
	2 beasts' livers	18 "
Bruises	1 pig's head	15 "
Peritonitis	1 cow's liver	14 "
Abscesses	1 pr. cow's lungs	8 "
Pericarditis	1 pig's heart	1 "
Congestion	2 pr. pigs' lungs	4 "

ii) Surrender of unsound food:

		Cwt.	Qr.	Lbs.	Oz.
Fresh food -	Meat	4	3	3	-
	Meat at slaughter-house	5	-	26	-
	Fish	3	-	15	-
	Fruit	-	-	18	10
Dry food -	Rice	-	-	21	-

ii) Surrender of unsound food (cont'd):

		Cwt.	Qr.	Lbs.	Oz.	
Canned food -	Meat.....	3	3	23	4	
	Fish.....	-	-	1	3	
	Milk.....	-	2	11	4	
	Fruit.....	-	1	10	5	
	Vegetables.....	-	-	22	7	
	Jam.....	-	-	25	-	
	Soup.....	-	-	1	-	
	Total:	18	3	10	1	(2,110 lbs.)

4. RODENT CONTROL

(Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

Number of properties inspected by Rodent Operative		132
Number of inspections		633
Number of infestations:		
rats - minor	123	
mice.....	5	128
Number of complaints received...		132
Number of contracts entered into		15
Number of infestations treated by Council.....		126

5. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One licence was issued under the provisions of the above named Act for the keeping of a pet shop in the district. Inspections were made of the premises from time to time to ascertain that the conditions of licence were complied with.

6. PETROLEUM ACTS AND ORDERS

Number of storage licences issued under the Petroleum Acts..... (Petrol - 22, petroleum mixtures - 3)	25
Number of visits made in connection with the storage of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures.....	38

7. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Visits to premises 4
No. of samples taken and submitted to analyst 1
Legal proceedings 1

8. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES
(Factories Acts 1937 and 1948)

a) Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities:	16	22	-	-
ii) Factories not included in i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority:	77	251	-	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority:	-	12	2	-
Total:	93	285	2	-

b) Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to To H.M. Inspector	Referred to By H.M. Inspector	No. of prosecutions
Sanitary Conveniences:-					
a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective.....	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act:	1	-	1	-	-
Total:	3	2	1	-	-

c) Outwork

The following outworkers were on the register in August, 1955:-

Nature of Work	Number of Outworkers
Making of wearing apparel	14
Jewellery	1
Chemists' sundries	8
Total:	23

Conditions of outwork were satisfactory and no action was necessary under Sections 110 or 111 of the Act.

9. SUMMARY

a) Complaints investigated and action taken 117
b) Legal proceedings 4

Summary of Legal Proceedings:

Act	Offence	Penalty
Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936.	Housing defects	Order made for work to be completed within one month. £2 2s. costs allowed.
Rag Flock Act, 1951	The sale of a cushion the filling of which did not comply with the statutory requirements.	Fine of £5 imposed. £5 2s. costs allowed.
Food & Drugs Act, 1938	Failing to take proper precautions to prevent contamination of food intended for human consumption.	Fines amounting to £9. £3 3s. costs allowed.
Food & Drugs Act, 1938.	Selling a sausage roll which was deemed to be unfit for human consumption.	Fine £5. £3 3s. costs allowed.

C) EPPING AND ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. WATER

a) Mains extensions carried out in 1955:-

Parish	3" in yards	4" in yards
Epping Upland	97	-
Kelvedon Hatch	1,520	-
Lambourne	111	259
North Weald	554	-
Stanford Rivers	-	768
Theydon Bois	-	143
Total:	2,282	1,170

b) Dwellings connected during 1955:-

Parish	No. of new connections	Parish	No. of new connections
Abbess, Berners & Beauchamp Roding	2	Moreton	9
Blackmore	13	Nazeing	23
Bobbingworth	2	Navestock	2
Chipping Ongar	5	North Weald	152
Doddinghurst	13	Roydon	3
Fyfield	10	Sheering	19
Greensted	2	Shelley	82
High Laver	2	Stanford Rivers	4
High Ongar	13	Stapleford Abbotts	16
Kelvedon Hatch	15	Stapleford Tawney	1
Lambourne	38	Stondon Massey	4
Little Laver	2	Theydon Bois	31
Magdalen Laver	2	Theydon Garnon	1
Matching	1	Theydon Mount	1
		Willingale	1
		Total:	469

Total number of premises with main supply 8,656
Total population served 28,114
Total population of district 31,640

Both the quality and quantity of the water supply were generally satisfactory.

Adequate bacteriological examinations of the raw and treated water were undertaken by the Herts. and Essex Water Company during the year under review. In addition to the samples taken by the company, 19 others were taken by the Council.

2. HOUSING

a) General

Number of dwellings built during the year:-

i) By the Council 98
ii) By private enterprise 237

b) Inspections

Total number of dwellings inspected for defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts 521

Number of re-inspections 487

Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts 16

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:
i) By owners 3
ii) By Local Authority in default of owners ..... -

c) Proceedings under the Housing Acts

Under Housing Act, 1936.	No. of Houses	No. of persons Displaced
Unfit houses in clearance areas demolished during the year	11	20

	No. of Houses	No. of persons Displaced
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11	11	19
Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11 and still in force	3	9
Parts of building closed (Section 12)..	-	-
Houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10,11, and 16.)		
i) By owners	3	-
ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	-	-
Under Housing Act, 1949.		
Closed as a result of Closing Orders made under Section 3(1) and 3 (2).	-	-
Under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.		
Closed as a result of Closing Orders under Section 10 (1) and 11 (2).	3	10

d) Improvement Grants.

During the year under review 86 applications were made for improvement grants. Schedules of disrepair and necessary works required to ensure compliance with the prescribed standard were prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. At the close of the year 31 grants had been made.

e) Moveable Dwellings

During the year 11 applications were received for licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Seven licences were granted and 4 refused.

f) Glen Faba and Riverfields Estates, Roydon

There are at least 70 families totalling some 200 persons housed on these estates. The conditions under which they live have further deteriorated during the year and can only be described as contravening all forms of housing standards and as prejudicial to health. The removal of these people to decent houses is urgent.

3. INSPECTION OF FOOD

a) General

The number and type of food premises in the district was as follows:-

Restaurants and cafes	51
Bakehouses	5
Fried and wet fish shops	4
Grocer's shops	88
Licensed premises	81

One hundred and twenty-eight food premises were registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938:-

Butcher's shops	16
Ice-cream premises	111
Fried fish shops	1

Number of inspections of registered food premises	133

b) Milk

There are 6 dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, in the Epping and Ongar Rural District. Eighteen registered distributors of milk operate in the same area.

The following licences were granted for the year under review in accordance with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949:-

Issued By	Supplementary Licences	Dealers Licences
Former Epping R.D.C.		
Pasteurized	5	12
Sterilized	7	13
Tuberculin tested	5	8
	17	33
Former Ongar R.D.C.		
Pasteurized	6	5
Sterilized	5	2
Tuberculin tested	7	3
	18	10

During the year 13 samples of milk were taken - 8 pasteurized, 1 sterilized and 4 tuberculin tested - all of which were satisfactory.

c) Ice-cream

During the year 11 samples of ice-cream and 5 samples of ice lollies were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Nine of the ice-cream samples were grade I and two were graded II. Of the ice lollies all but one were found to be satisfactory.

d) Meat and Other Foods

i) Slaughtering and meat inspection.

There are 7 licensed slaughterhouses in the area and twenty licensed slaughtermen are on the register.

Three slaughterhouses are approved as ordinary deadweight certification centres for pigs.

The following table relates to carcases inspected and condemned during the year.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
NUMBER KILLED					
Former Epping R.D. and Ongar R.D. to 31.3.55.	298	9	232	343	1533
Epping & Ongar R.D.	754	267	496	2007	2453
NUMBER INSPECTED	1052	276	728	2350	3986
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS					
Whole carcases condemned	2	-	1	1	20
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	270	12	16	111	240
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticercosis	25.8%	4.3%	2.3%	4.7%	6.5%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcases condemned	5	1	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	71	9	-	-	51
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.2%	3.6%	-	-	1.3%
CYSTICERCOSIS					
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of meat condemned:- 6 tons 16 cwt. 0 qtrs. 10 lbs.

ii) Surrender of other unsound food.

	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Canned meat	1	1	10	4
Canned milk	-	1	11	2
Canned fruit	-	-	25	7½
Canned vegetables ..	-	1	11	5
Canned soup	-	-	-	15½
Cheese	-	-	12	-
Semolina	-	1	-	-
Fresh meat	-	-	17	-
	2	3	4	2

4. RODENT CONTROL

(Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

One full-time Rodent Operative is employed.

The work of rodent control during the year ended 31st March, 1956, is detailed below.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other incl. business premises	Total
No. of properties in Authority's district	32	9893	410	1044	11,379
No. of properties inspected as a result of: a) Notification	-	415	9	55	479
b) Survey	32	316	39	89	476
c) Otherwise	-	969	40	150	1,191
No. of properties inspected found to be infested by:					
a) Rats - Major	-	2	2	-	4
Minor	18	641	37	100	769
b) Mice - Major	-	10	1	3	14
Minor	2	44	-	9	55
No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority	20	697	39	112	868
No. of Notices served under Section 4.					
a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
b) Structural work	-	-	-	-	-

Number of block controls: 37

Test baiting and maintenance treatments of the Council's sewerage systems were carried out twice during the year. A total of 397 manholes were baited and of those 97 (24%) showed prebait take and 20 (5%) showed complete prebait take.

5. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES
(Factories Act, 1937 and 1948)

There are 71 power and 10 non-power factories on the register.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities:	10	15	1	-
ii) Factories not included in i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority:	71	124	8	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority:	-	-	-	-

There were 64 outworkers in the lists supplied under Section 111 (i) (c) of the Act classified as follows:-

Wearing apparel, making, etc.....	61
Making of boxes	1
Brush making	2

There were no instances of work being done in unwholesome premises.

Offensive Trades (Public Health Act, 1936)

The owner of the Stapleford Abbotts fat factory submitted in June, 1955, his proposals for improving the factory and method of operation so as to comply with

sanitary requirements and to reduce all risks of nuisance to the least possible extent. Since the proposals are designed primarily to ensure compliance with the existing bye-laws and are contingent upon the necessary planning permission with the Minister's approval, a decision at the earliest possible time is an urgent necessity. In the absence of proper storage facilities for the raw material the associated problems including adequate fly control measures are rendered more difficult.

6. PETROLEUM ACTS AND ORDERS

Number of operative licences authorising storage 150
Number of visits in connection with petroleum installations 41

7. SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

	Former Epping R.D.C. to 31.3.55	Former Ongar R.D.C. to 31.3.55	Epping & Ongar R.D.C. from 1.4.55.
Public Health Act, 1936.			
Water supplies	8	13	45
Sewerage & drainage	21	44	246
Piggeries	2	10	32
Moveable dwellings	5	5	37
Moveable dwelling sites	-	6	20
Refuse collection and disposal	-	56	17
Provision of dustbins ..	10	-	94
Offensive trades	-	18	47
Nuisances	12	20	104
Re-inspections to secure abatement of nuisances	5	14	81
Food and Drugs Act, 1938.			
Slaughterhouses	110	187	781
Bakehouses	7	2	6
Fish shops	-	3	6
Ice-cream premises	12	10	38
Sections 9 and 13	-	15	59
Dairies	27	5	16
Butcher's shops	-	8	20

	Former Epping R.D.C. to 31.3.55.	Former Ongar R.D.C. to 31.3.55.	Epping & Ongar R.D.C.
Food and Drugs Act, 1938. (cont'd)			
Food shops	52	10	82
Restaurant kitchens	22	7	25
Canteens (including school canteens)	22	6	8
Housing			
Number of houses inspected under the Public Health Act, 1936.....	43	50	143
Number of re-inspections	55	30	209
Number of houses inspected under the Housing Acts, 1936 - 1954	32	63	190
Number of re-inspections	22	21	150
Number of houses surveyed in connection with improvement grants	26	16	169
Miscellaneous			
Visits re Petroleum Acts and Orders	5	12	24
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.....	163	215	813
Factory inspections	91	9	39
Factories Act, Section 34	92	-	9
Public conveniences	-	18	46
Licensed public houses .	15	4	25
Hairdressing premises ..	8	-	-
Unclassified	19	24	47

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